



## Quiet, Healthy Arlington

Hello,

*I thought it would be helpful to share this information on Article 16 which seeks to eliminate Gas Powered Leaf Blowers, as the article and amendments have a simple intent, but the language is a bit complicated. Quiet Healthy Arlington is the group that has created this article and the following guide. Note that the full text of the article, along with the proponent's proposed amendments is available on the <https://www.quiethealthyarlington.org/about-article-16> website.*

*Josh Lobel, Pct 8 TMM*

To refresh your memory before Monday's meeting, Quiet Healthy Arlington offers this quick review of Article 16.

### **Article 16 will:**

- Prohibit use of gas powered leaf blowers as of March 15, 2025 for commercial landscapers and the Town, and as of March 15, 2026 for residents
- Until phase out dates, gas-powered blowers can continue to be used each year in spring (March 15-May 31) and fall (Sept 15 - Dec 31), but cannot be used June 1-Sept 14.

### **Arguments in favor:**

- it's a moderate and workable compromise
- protects residents from the extreme noise and pollution of gas powered leaf blowers
- allows landscaping companies and residents time to adapt
- improves conditions for landscape workers
- electric leaf blowers are already a viable alternative and likely to improve vastly within the 3-4 year time frame
- creates a law that is easier to understand and enforce than our current one
- supports the town's commitment to action on the climate crisis

### **Proponents ask you to vote:**

- Yes on Article 16, to phase out gas-powered leaf blowers
- Yes on Goodwin 1, to clarify wording around seasonal restrictions
- Yes on Goodwin 2, to specify the municipal exemption to be only for areas of an acre or more
- Yes on Brown Amendment, to restrict use on Saturday as well as Sunday for religious equity reasons
- No on Friedman Amendment, to remove restrictions for residents

Go to <https://www.quiethealthyarlington.org/about-article-16> to see a short video presentation and find more information.

The proponents can be contacted at [quiethealthyarlington@gmail.com](mailto:quiethealthyarlington@gmail.com).